

Appl. No. 09/580,145  
Preliminary Amendment dated March 2, 2004

### REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending in this application. Claims 6 and 8 were amended in the response to the final office action, but were not entered.

New claims 10 - 14 are added in this preliminary amendment.

No new matter is added by these amendments. An early action on the merits is solicited.

No additional fees are believed to be required with the new claims. With the added claims, only 3 independent claims and 14 claims total are pending.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 2, 2004

By: 

Joseph M. Kuo (Reg. No. 38,943)

OLSON & HIERL, LTD.  
20 North Wacker Drive, 36th Floor  
Chicago, IL 60606  
(312) 580-1180